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Approved For Release 2004/05/05 : CIA-RDP75B00159R000200090011-9

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IDEA 0208-70

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15 September 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Special Activities

SUBJECT : Redesignation of U-2

1. The following paragraphs list the Pros and Cons for consideration in redesignation of the U-2 aircraft.

2. Pro (Favorable Factors)

a. A new designation would be more diplomatically palatable in as much as the U-2 incident in 1960 (Gary Powers) and its association with CIA still causes concern in some areas of the world.

b. A new name with a "Y" designation would be a plausible explanation for world-wide missions under cover of environmental testing

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3. Con (Factors Against)

a. Change in designation may give credence to a new, improved vehicle and arouse undue interest by technical intelligence people on the red side of the fence.

b. Communist countries may use the change for propaganda purposes by noting it is the same old aircraft but we are changing the name to try to dupe the world into thinking it is something else.

c. It is likely that the world press would identify the aircraft as a "spy plane" in spite of the name change. Any reconnaissance aircraft is thus tagged.

d. A name change could suggest that money was being spent for development of a new weapons system without public knowledge.

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e. A name change could imply deception on the part of the U. S. if the press chose to publicize the fact that the aircraft had previously been called the U-2.

f. A great deal of money and effort would be expended in changing manuals, tech orders, etc.

4. For reasons in paragraph 3 above, recommend that no change in designation of the U-2 be effected at this time.

5. If redesignation is considered essential, recommend using YR-7. The "Y" for experimental, the "R" for reconnaissance, and the "7" or "any other number" desired.

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Deputy for Operations, OSA

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OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP					
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TO	NAME AND ADDRESS				S
1	DD/SA				
2	DSA				
3	Let's file this for future use - not appropriate while we are publicly deployed or when UZR capability is still unknown as different from UZC. R				
4					
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ACTION		DIRECT REPLY		PREPARE REPLY	
APPROVAL		DISPATCH		RECOMMENDATION	
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Remarks: Plz note addition of
HP 5 on accomplished
page 2

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FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.		DATE
		6 Oct 70

TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE
TO: DDISA		9/18
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REMARKS:		
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25X1		
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FORM NO 241
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REPLACES FORM 36-8
WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)

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OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP

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TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	DD/SA		
2	D/SA		
3	I agree but let's look into		
4	what we should call it if we		
5	changed it. The live AF165 is looking		
6	into this at this time. R		
	ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
	APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT	FILE	RETURN
	CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE

Remarks:

At this point I believe
the Com here it although
I think it never should
have started out with
a "U" along with it.

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FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.	DATE
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